

What is claimed is:

1. A method of detecting the presence of an antibody directed against a ganglioside in a subject comprising:
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- (a) contacting a liquid sample from the subject with the ganglioside, such ganglioside being affixed to at least two separate solid particles, under conditions permitting the antibody if present in the sample to form a complex with the ganglioside, which complex comprises such solid particles; and
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- (b) detecting the presence of any complex formed in step (a), wherein the presence of such complexes indicates the presence of the antibody in the subject.
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2. A method of detecting in a subject the presence of at least two different antibodies, each of which antibodies is directed against a different type of ganglioside comprising:
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- (a) contacting a liquid sample from the subject with one such type of ganglioside, such



















12. The method of claim 1, 2, 7 or 8, wherein the solid particles comprise carbonsol.
13. The method of claim 1, 2, 7 or 8, wherein the ganglioside is covalently affixed to the solid particles.
14. The method of claim 1, 2, 7 or 8, wherein the ganglioside is chosen from the group consisting of GM1, GM2, GM3, GD1, GD2, GD3, GD1a, GD1b, GT1b or GQ1b.
15. The method of claim 1, 2, 7 or 8, wherein the ganglioside comprises total brain ganglioside extract.
16. The method of claim 15, wherein the source of the extract is a bovid.
17. The method of claim 1, 2, 7 or 8, wherein the ganglioside comprises tissue ganglioside extract.
18. The method of claim 1, 2, 7 or 8, wherein the antiganglioside antibody is an autoantibody.







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23. The method of claim 21, wherein the antibody is directed against GD1a.
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24. The method of claim 19, wherein the neuropathy is Guillain-Barré syndrome.
25. The method of claim 19, wherein the neuropathy is a Guillain-Barré syndrome variant.
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26. The method of claim 19, wherein the neuropathy is a peripheral neuropathic disease.
27. The method of claim 19, wherein the neuropathy is a multifocal motor neuropathy.
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28. A method of determining if a subject is predisposed to become afflicted with an autoimmune neuropathy, comprising quantitating the amount of an antibody directed against a ganglioside in the subject using the method of claim 7 or 8, wherein the presence of a predefined amount of the antibody indicates that the subject is predisposed to become afflicted with
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an autoimmune neuropathy.

29. The method of claim 28, wherein the neuropathy is Guillain-Barré syndrome.

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30. The method of claim 28, wherein the neuropathy is a Guillain-Barré syndrome variant.

31. The method of claim 28, wherein the neuropathy is a  
10 peripheral neuropathic disease.

32. The method of claim 28, wherein the neuropathy is a multifocal motor neuropathy.

- 15 33. A method of determining if a subject with Celiac  
disease is predisposed to become afflicted with an  
autoimmune neuropathy, comprising quantitating the  
amount of an antibody directed against a ganglioside  
in the subject using the method of claim 7 or 8,  
20 wherein the presence of a predefined amount of the  
antibody indicates that the subject is predisposed  
to become afflicted with an autoimmune neuropathy.

34. The method of claim 33, wherein the antibody is



directed against GM1..

35. The method of claim 33, wherein the antibody is directed against GD1a.